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16 December 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/ Intelligence

THROUGH : Assistant Director, Research and Reports

SUBJECT : Tentative U.S. Position on Antarctica

1. The attached is a draft of a U.S. Position paper prepared by Ambassador Dardis and Mr. Wilson, of the Department of State, for study and approval by the Secretary of State. It is planned that after such approval the paper will be submitted to the Operations Coordinating Board for approval and forwarding to the National Security Council for final action, in accordance with paragraph 19, NSC 5715.

2. Noteworthy are the departures from considered alternatives of NSC 5715. Unlike either a Condominium or UN Trusteeship (paragraphs 11 b and c, NSC 5715), the proposed international regime would not require a transfer of sovereignty or claims. Too, the Soviet would be invited to participate in the organizing International Conference and in the proposed Antarctic International Authority.

3. The lengthy nature of the supporting papers will require further careful study, particularly with respect to an appraisal of Soviet reactions in this approach, and possible subsequent intelligence problems related to the demilitarization and economic provisions of the International Authority treaty.

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[redacted]
Alternate Member, Working Group on Antarctica, OCB

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